

Arlington Public Schools
“Providing the means to accomplish dreams”

Supportive Information Sheet

Subject: FIRST READING OF POLICIES:

- *Policy 3414 – Students – Infectious Diseases - Amended*
- *Policy 3220 – Students – Freedom of Expression – Amended & Combined*
- *Policy 3221 – Students – Student Publications - Deleted*
- *Policy 3222 – Students – Distribution of Materials – Deleted*

Action

Page(s): _____ Six (6), including cover _____ (4 Policies)

Submitted by: _____ Dr. E. Kristine McDuffy, Superintendent

Date: _____ March 9, 2009

Background Information:

The District has contracted with the Washington State School Directors’ Association (WSSDA) to conduct a comprehensive review and update of all of its policies. The Board members discussed recommended updates to these four policies at a Study Session on February 23, 2009.

Administrative Consideration:

The Board requested a few minor adjustments. Those changes have been made and these policies are now being presented for first reading.

Superintendent’s Recommendation:

That the Board approves for first reading policies 3414, 3220, 3221, and 3222.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases the Superintendent shall implement procedures assuring that all school buildings are in compliance with State Board of Health rules and regulations regarding the presence of persons who have or have been exposed to infectious diseases deemed dangerous to the public health. Such procedures shall also prescribe the manner in which safeguards are taken to remove the danger to others.

The District shall require that the parents or guardian shall complete a medical history update form at the beginning of each school year. The nurse or school physician may use such reports to advise the parent of the need for further medical attention and to plan for potential health problems in school.

The Board authorizes the School Principal to exclude a student who has been diagnosed by a physician or is suspected of having an infectious disease in accordance with the regulations within the **most current** Infectious Disease Control Guide (SPI-1997) (OSPI/CDC). The Principal and/or school nurse shall report the presence of suspected case or cases of reportable communicable disease to the appropriate local health authority as required by the State Board of Health. Such information concerning a student's present and past health condition shall be treated as confidential. The Principal shall cooperate with the local health officials in the investigation of the source of the disease.

The fact that a student has been tested for a sexually transmitted disease, the test result, any information relating to the diagnosis or treatment of a sexually transmitted disease, and any information regarding drug or alcohol treatment for a student must be kept strictly confidential. If the District has a release, the information may be disclosed pursuant to the restrictions in the release.

A school principal or the school district nursing supervisor has the authority to send an ill child home without the concurrence of the local health officer, but if the disease is reportable, the local health officer must be notified. The local health officer is the primary resource in the identification and control of infectious disease in community and school. **The local health officer, in consultation with the Superintendent, can take whatever action is deemed necessary to control or eliminate the spread of disease, including closing a school.**

Legal References:

RCW 28A.210.010	Contagious Diseases, Limiting Contact - Rules and Regulations
WAC Ch 246-110	School Districts and Day Care Centers - Contagious Diseases
WAC 246-100-071	Responsibility for reporting and cooperating with the local health department
WAC 246-100-076	Reportable diseases and conditions
RCW 70.02	Medical Records - Health Care Information Access and Disclosure

Adopted: (WPR/PN)

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

The free expression of student opinion is an important part of education in a democratic society. Students' verbal and written expression of opinion on school premises is to be encouraged so long as it does not substantially disrupt the operation of the school. Students are expressly prohibited from the use of vulgar and/or offensive terms in classroom or assembly settings.

The Superintendent shall develop guidelines assuring that students are able to enjoy free expression of opinion while maintaining orderly conduct of the school.

A. Student Publications

Student publications produced as part of the school's curriculum or with the support of the associated student body fund are intended to serve both as vehicles for instruction and student communication. They are operated and substantively financed by the District.

Material appearing in such publications should reflect all areas of student interest, including topics about which there may be controversy and dissent. Controversial issues may be presented provided that they are treated in depth and represent a variety of viewpoints. Such materials may not: be libelous, obscene or profane; cause a substantial disruption of the school, invade the privacy of others; demean any race, religion, sex, or ethnic group; or, advocate the violation of the law or advertise or promote tobacco products, liquor, illicit drugs, or drug paraphernalia.

The Superintendent shall develop guidelines to implement these standards and shall establish procedures for the prompt review and action of any materials which appear not to comply with the standards.

B. Distribution of Materials

Publications or other material written by students may be distributed on school premises in accordance with procedures developed by the Superintendent. Such procedures may impose limits on the time, place, and manner of distribution including prior authorization for the distribution or circulation of substantial quantities of printed material or the posting of such material on school property.

Students responsible for the distribution of material which leads to a substantial disruption of school activity or otherwise interferes with school operations shall be subject to corrective action or punishment, including suspension or expulsion, consistent with student discipline policies.

Materials shall not be distributed on school grounds by non-students and non-employees of the District.

Cross Reference:

Board Policy 2340
Board Policy 3241

Religious-related Activities and Practices
Corrective Actions or Punishment

Legal References:

WAC ~~180-40-215~~ 392-40-215

Student Rights

Management Resources

Policy News, August 2001 A Few Civil Liberty Reminders

Adopted: (WPR)

Arlington School District No. 16

Students

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Legal References:

~~WAC 180-40-215—Student rights~~

Adoption Date: _____ June 21, 1988

WSSDA: 02/12//88

Arlington School District No. 16

Students

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~~Cross References:~~

~~(cf. 3220—Freedom of Expression)~~

~~(cf. 3300—Corrective Actions or Punishment)~~

~~Legal References:~~

~~WAC 180-40-215—Student Rights~~

~~Adoption Date: June 21, 1988~~

~~WSSDA: 12/23/88~~